LATINX VOICE; LATINX VOTE: How Demographics are Shifting the American Political Landscape

Friday, September 30, 2016
1:30 – 3 p.m.
Givens Conference Room (120 Elmer Andersen Library)
West Bank campus

Free and open to the public

Live streaming available via our website

For additional resources on this topic, provided by the University Libraries: z.umn.edu/criticalconversations

Using US Census Bureau definitions and data, Hispanics or Latinxs, represented “over half” the total increase in U.S. population between 2000 and 2010, and the Pew Hispanic Center estimates that by 2050, Hispanics will constitute 29% of the U.S. population. Mexicans comprised nearly 75% of Hispanic increases, and more than half of the U.S. Hispanic population resided in three states: California, Texas, and Florida. These demographics reveal the potential power that both immigrants and native-born community members can wield in the political process. Issues such as immigration reform and paths to citizenship; affordable education; supportive services for families; criminal justice reform, and addressing economic inequality have risen to the forefront as important issues in the 2016 presidential campaign. Yet, within this group are people of Mexican, Cuban, Puerto Rican, and Central and South American heritage, and while they share connections through iterations of the Spanish language, there are notable differences regarding class, cultural practices, beliefs, and values. This conversation brings together a diverse group of panelists to explore: intersections of ethnicity, race, class, gender, and religion; how these factors affect Latinx communities; and the role they could play in American politics.

Panelists: Alondra Cano, Council member, Ward 9, Minneapolis City Council; Patricia Torres Ray, First Hispanic female elected to the Minnesota State Senate, representing District 63, and Chair, State and Local Government Committee; Fernando Rodriguez, Teaching Specialist, Chicano Studies, and Doctoral Candidate, College of Education and Human Development, University of Minnesota; Minerva Muñoz, Director, TRIO Programs, College of Education and Human Development, University of Minnesota.

Moderator: Fernando Burga, Assistant Professor, Masters in Urban and Regional Planning Program, Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota.

Learn more at diversity.umn.edu/criticalconversations, or contact Wendy Weimerskirch Plager at OEDed@umn.edu or 612-626-5462.

To request disability accommodations for this event, or to obtain this material in an alternate format, contact Ralph Blanco at rblanco@umn.edu or 612-625-8680.